UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/742,309	12/18/2003	Masaki Kashiwagi	CFA00027US	5665

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EXAMINER
SINGH, SATWANT K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/742,309	KASHIWAGI, MASAKI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	SATWANT K. SINGH	2625

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 April 2009*.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *18 December 2003* is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 02 April 2009.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 11 have been considered but

are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1-30 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Miyamoto et al. (US 7,119,931) in view of Kita et al. (US 6,961,139) and Mori (US

5,966,219).

5.   Regarding Claim 1, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus

comprising: an image reading unit configured to read image data of a document (Fig. 2,

scanner 14) (scanner functions as an image reading device) (col. 8, lines 14-19) fed

from an automatic document feeder (ADF 23) (col. 8, lines 36-44); a reading control unit

configured to perform a successive reading operation (reading successive sheets of the

original read by said reading part) (claim 1), wherein, in the successive reading

operation, plural sets of document sheets divided from a series of document sheets are

independently fed from the automatic document feeder (sheets of the original set are

separately fed through the ADF) and read by the image reading unit (scanner reads the

image data) (col. 8, lines 36-45) until a read-end command is input (Fig. 3, S4-S11)

(recognizing that the document has ended) (col. 9, line 58-col. 10 line 2); an image

outputting unit configured to collectively output the image data corresponding to the

plural sets of document sheets stored in the image storage unit as the series of image

data when the read-end command is input (Fig. 3, S11) (image data transferred to the

server apparatus) (col. 9, line 58-col. 10 line 2); and a control unit configured to enable

the display unit to display image data corresponding to the read image data in a period

from when image data of one divided set of the plural sets of document sheets is read

to when image data of another divided set of the plural sets of document sheets is read

(displays of the reading operation picture) (col. 14, lines 59-64), in the successive

reading operation (image data in units of documents is displayed on the display device

successively) (col. 14, lines 20-23).

Miyamoto fails to teach an apparatus comprising: an image storage unit

configured to store the image data read by the image reading unit; a display unit

configured to display the image data stored in the image storage unit; and image data

corresponding to the read plural sets of document sheets is stored in the image storage

unit as a series of image data corresponding to the series of document sheets;

Kita et al teaches an image processing apparatus comprising: an image storage

unit configured to store the image data read by the image reading unit (image memory

14); and image data corresponding to the read plural sets of document sheets is stored

in the image storage unit as a series of image data corresponding to the series of

document sheets (image data, read by scanning section is compressed by the compression/expansion circuit and stored in image memory) (col. 8, lines 16-32, col. 9, line 49-col. 10, line 7).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto with the teaching of Kita to allow for the storage and output of mass image data in the succession that it was read/scanned.

Miyamoto et al and Kita et al fail to teach an apparatus comprising a display unit configured to display the image data stored in the image storage unit.

Mori teaches an apparatus comprising a display unit configured to display the image data stored in the image storage unit (Fig. 1, display section 10B) (displays image data on the screen) (col. 5, lines 64-65).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto and Kita with the teaching of Mori to allow a user to view a scanned document directly on the MFP.

6.   Regarding Claim 2, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus, wherein the control unit enables the display unit to display the stored image data at an interval between a first reading process for said one divided set of the plural sets of document sheets and a second reading process for said another divided set of the plural sets document sheets, the second reading process being performed after the first reading process (method of indicating the separation of documents) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

7.   Regarding Claim 3, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus,
further comprising: a command acceptance unit configured to accept the read-end
command in the successive reading operation (Fig. 3, S4-S11) (recognizing that the
document has ended) (col. 9, line 58-col. 10 line 2), wherein, in the successive reading
operation, the control unit enables the display unit to display the stored image data
before the command acceptance unit accepts the read- end command (controlling an
interval of transmission of image data) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

8.   Regarding Claim 4, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus,
wherein, in the successive reading operation, the control unit enables the display unit to
display the stored image data before the second reading process is started (controlling
an interval of transmission of image data) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

9.   Regarding Claim 5, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus,
wherein, in the successive reading operation, the control unit enables the display unit to
display the stored image data after completion of the first reading process and before
the second reading process is started (controlling an interval of transmission of image
data) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

10.   Regarding Claim 7, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus,
wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a command
to display image data stored in the image storage unit on the display unit is enabled
(thumbnail image of document is displayed on the display device) (col. 9, lines 35-39).

11.   Regarding Claim 8, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus,
wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of the read-end

command in the successive reading operation is enabled (Fig. 3, S6, set time out) (col. 9, lines 62-63).

12.   Regarding Claim 10, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing apparatus, further comprising: a suspending instruction unit configured to instruct suspension of the successive reading operation for the series of document sheets and resume the suspended reading operation, wherein the interval is provided by the suspending instruction unit (Fig. 3, S17, cancelling Key pressed) (col. 10, lines 38-41).

13.   Regarding Claim 11 and 21, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method comprising: performing a successive reading operation (reading successive sheets of the original read by said reading part) (claim 1), wherein, in the successive reading operation, plural sets of document sheets divided from a series of document sheets are independently fed from an automatic document feeder (sheets of the original set are separately fed through the ADF) and read (scanner reads the image data) (col. 8, lines 36-45) until a read end command is input (Fig. 3, S4-S11) (recognizing that the document has ended) (col. 9, line 58-col. 10 line 2), and outputting, collectively, the image data corresponding to the plural sets of document sheets stored in the image storage unit as the series of image data when the read-end command is input (Fig. 3, S11), (image data transferred to the server apparatus) (col. 9, line 58-col. 10 line 2); and allowing a display unit to display the stored image data corresponding to the read image data in a period from when image data of one divided set of the plural sets of document sheets is read to when image data of another divided set of the plural sets of document sheets is read (displays of the reading operation picture) (col. 14, lines 59-64), in the

successive reading operation (image data in units of documents is displayed on the display device successively) (col. 14, lines 20-23).

Miyamoto et al fails to teach a method comprising: image data corresponding to the read plural sets of document sheets is stored in an image storage unit as a series of image data corresponding to the series of document sheets; a display unit to display the stored image data.

Kita et al teaches a method comprising: image data corresponding to the read plural sets of document sheets is stored in an image storage unit as a series of image data corresponding to the series of document sheets (image data, read by scanning section is compressed by the compression/expansion circuit and stored in image memory) (col. 8, lines 16-32, col. 9, line 49-col. 10, line 7).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Kita with the teaching of Miyamoto to allow for the storage and output of mass image data.

Miyamoto et al and Kita et al fail to teach a method comprising: a display unit to display the stored image data.

Mori teaches an apparatus comprising: a display unit to display the stored image data (Fig. 1, display section 10B) (displays image data on the screen) (col. 5, lines 64-65).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto and Kita with the teaching of Mori to allow a user to view a scanned document directly on the MFP.

14.   Regarding Claims 12 and 22, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, wherein displaying of the stored image data by the display unit is allowed an interval between a first reading process for said one divided set of the plural sets of document sheets and a second reading process for said another divided set of the plural sets of document sheets, the second reading process being performed after the first reading process (method of indicating the separation of documents) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

15.   Regarding Claims 13 and 23, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, further comprising: accepting the read-end command in the successive reading operation (Fig. 3, S4-S11) (recognizing that the document has ended) (col. 9, line 58-col. 10 line 2), wherein, in the successive reading operation, displaying of the stored image data by the display unit is allowed before the read-end command is accepted (controlling an interval of transmission of image data) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

16.   Regarding Claims 14 and 24, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, wherein, in the successive reading operation, displaying of the stored image data by the display unit is allowed before the second reading process is started (controlling an interval of transmission of image data) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

17.   Regarding Claims 15 and 25, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, wherein, in the successive reading operation, displaying of the stored image data by the display unit is allowed after completion of the first reading process and before the second reading process is started (controlling an interval of transmission of image data) (col. 14, lines 38-64).

18.   Regarding Claims 17 and 27, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a command to display image data stored in the image storage unit on the display unit is enabled (thumbnail image of document is displayed on the display device) (col. 9, lines 35-39).

19.   Regarding Claims 18 and 28, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of the read-end command in the successive reading operation is enabled (Fig. 3, S6, set time out) (col. 9, lines 62-63).

20.   Regarding Claims 20 and 30, Miyamoto et al teaches an image processing method, further comprising instructing suspension of the successive reading operation for the series of document sheets; and resuming the suspended reading operation, wherein the interval is provided by the instruction (Fig. 3, S17, cancelling Key pressed) (col. 10, lines 38-41).

21.   Claims 6, 9, 16, 19, 26, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto et al, Kita et al, and Mori as applied to claims 1 and 11 above, and further in view of Kanda (US 7,212,307).

22.   Regarding Claim 6, Miyamoto et al, Kita et al, and Mori fail to teach an image processing apparatus, further comprising- a re-read unit configured to re-read a document page by the image reading unit and replace data corresponding to image data currently displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-reading.

Kanda teaches an image processing apparatus, further comprising- a re-read unit configured to re-read a document page by the image reading unit and replace data corresponding to image data currently displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-reading (image date for each page are read out by means of the memory/HDD control section for a set number of times) (col. 6, lines 17-29).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto, Kita and Mori with the teaching of Kanda to re-read the image data to prevent errors in the output image and make sure the correct image is being output.

23.   Regarding Claim 9, Miyamoto et al, Kita et al, and Mori fail to teach an image processing apparatus, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-read a document page by the image reading unit and replace image data currently displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-reading.

Kanda teaches an image processing apparatus, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-read a document page by the image reading unit and replace image data currently displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-reading (image date for each page are read out by means of the memory/HDD control section for a set number of times) (col. 6, lines 17-29).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto, Kita and Mori with the teaching of Kanda to re-read the image data to prevent errors in the output image and make sure the correct image is being output.

24.   Regarding Claim 16 and 26, Miyamoto et al, Kita et al, and Mori fail to teach an
image processing method, further comprising- re-reading a document page; and
replacing image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on the display
unit with image data obtained by the re-reading.

        Kanda teaches an image processing apparatus, further comprising- re-reading a
document page; and replacing image data corresponding to image data currently
displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-reading (image date for
each page are read out by means of the memory/HDD control section for a set number
of times) (col. 6, lines 17-29).

        Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time
of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto, Kita and Mori with the
teaching of Kanda to re-read the image data to prevent errors in the output image and
make sure the correct image is being output.

25.   Regarding Claim 19 and 29, Miyamoto et al, Kita et al, and Mori fail to teach an
image processing apparatus, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-
read a document page and replace image data corresponding to image data currently
displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-reading.

        Kanda teaches an image processing apparatus, wherein a re-read command is
allowed to be input to re-read a document page and replace image data corresponding
to image data currently displayed on the display unit with image data obtained by the re-
reading (image date for each page are read out by means of the memory/HDD control
section for a set number of times) (col. 6, lines 17-29).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Miyamoto, Kita and Mori with the teaching of Kanda to re-read the image data to prevent errors in the output image and make sure the correct image is being output.

Conclusion

26.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SATWANT K. SINGH whose telephone number is (571)272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Edward L. Coles/   /Satwant K. Singh/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625   Examiner, Art Unit 2625

sks